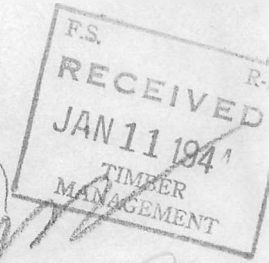


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1943

Agricultural Research Administration

Forest Insect Laboratory
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho



January 10th, 1944

To: Forest Supervisor, Kaniksu National Forest, Sandpoint, Idaho
From: James C. Evenden, Box 630, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Subject: Forest Insect Survey - Kaniksu National Forest

During the 1943 field season extensive forest insect surveys were made of the white pine stands of the Pass, Stony, Lost, and Binarch Creek drainages of the Kaniksu National Forest. It is regretted that a more detailed survey of this forest was not possible so that other timbered areas could have been included. However it is believed that the drainages covered included all potentially dangerous bark beetle infestations. Information obtained from these areas follows:

PASS CREEK

During the past twelve or fourteen years a large percent of the white pine stand within the Pass creek drainage has been destroyed by a severe infestation of the mountain pine beetle. It is difficult to estimate the volume of timber killed during this period as the loss varies from scattered individual trees to fairly large areas of complete kill. Although a good view of the upper portion of this drainage can be had from the forest highway one can not realize the seriousness of this destruction without an actual examination of the timber stands in question. There is still a light annual loss which amounts to .3 to .4 of an infested white pine tree per acre, with a concentration of damage above the mouth of Gypo Creek. As at the time this area was examined the beetle emergence from the trees attacked in 1942 was not complete so the final data as to the status of the 1943 infestation could not be obtained. However this loss is not expected to exceed that of the previous year, and will be approximately .3 of an infested tree per acre.

The removal of the cedar from this area has created a condition which will be observed with interest. There will undoubtedly be some loss

of trees injured by the cedar making operation, or those individuals which were unable to adjust themselves to the newly created forest environment, however the removal of the cedar should result in an improved growing condition for the remaining white pine. Although the present infestation of the mountain pine beetle is not alarming, this area will be kept under surveillance until all danger of a destructive beetle outbreak has passed.

STONY CREEK

The mountain pine beetle within the white pine stands of the Stony creek drainage was quite comparable to that recorded in Pass creek. Losses of mature trees from the attacks of this insect have been severe with a large percent of the merchantable stand having been killed during the past fifteen years. The evidence of this severe loss is still to be seen in the many snags which still stand in all portions of the area. Although an infestation of the mountain pine beetle is still taking an annual toll of merchantable trees it is not alarming at this time. During the past few years this loss will average .3 of an infested tree per acre. The history of the mountain pine beetle infestation within this drainage would indicate that the timber stands are susceptible to the attacks of this insect. As a result this area will be checked frequently so that we may be forewarned of any potential epidemics of this insect.

LOST CREEK

A few year ago a severe epidemic of the mountain pine beetle occurred within the white pine stands of the Lost creek drainage. This outbreak reached its peak in 1939 for in that year the loss amounted to .98 of an infested tree per acre or 5 percent of the residual white pine stand. Following this peak loss the outbreak subsided until in 1941 the loss amounted to .09 of an infested tree per acre or .35 percent of the green white pine stand. It is estimated that the total loss of timber during this outbreak was from forty to fifty percent of the white pine stand which existed prior to its occurrence. During the past few years there has been a scattered loss of pine which has varied from .1 to .3 of an infested tree per acre. Frequent checks will be made of the timber stands within this area.

BINARCH CREEK

In this drainage white pine trees continue to die from causes unknown. This loss which included trees which vary from six to eighteen inches in diameter is more pronounced in the vicinity of the Meadows area.

Mountain pine beetle attacks were present in some trees while in others secondary insects were recorded, however in only a few instances could insects be considered as being at all responsible for the death of the tree attacked. Many trees show no insect attack whatever. Some recently dead trees show a breaking down of the sapwood which must have occurred prior to or at least along with the death of the tree. In some instances trees have been kept alive through a narrow band or strip of green sapwood for a number of years only to finally succumb to the causal agency of death. Many trees show decadent tops which would indicate an abnormal condition at the base of the tree, while others seem to have a full compliment of normal foliage at the time of death. Regardless of the reason for the death of these trees insects do not seem to be the causal agency.

JCEvenden:LE

cc: Regional Forester
F. C. Craighead
Foresters Office
Idaho State Forester

LCN to Reports 1943

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE

Forest Insect Laboratory

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho



January 4th, 1944

W. J. M.

To: Regional Forester, Federal Building, Missoula, Montana

From: James C. Evenden, Box 630, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Subject: Forest Insect Survey - Coeur d'Alene National Forest

I am enclosing a copy of a brief report by Mr. Gibson which covers the survey work conducted by this laboratory on the Coeur d'Alene National Forest during the past season.

You will note the recorded increase in the severity of this years infestation of the mountain pine beetle within the Yellow Dog and Downey Creek Units. I am hopeful that this will prove to be a temporary condition only, as our timber losses within these two areas have already been high. It is also possible that more serious conditions may develop within the Sissons and Cabin Creek Units where heavy blow downs of pine occurred in 1942. These areas will be checked during the coming season.

cc: Coeur d'Alene Forest
Foresters Office
Craighead

el've asked Evenden for a chance to discuss the entire insect control field shortly. Will discuss this with him then.
W. J. M.